

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for separation of the phases of a multiphase fluid from one or more wells, the method comprising:

conducting a multiphase fluid to ~~equipment~~ a plurality of gravity separators for separation of different phases in the fluid from each other, wherein the fluid is ~~selectively~~ conducted to at least one first and at least one second gravity separator ~~in parallel~~ simultaneously or ~~in subsequent steps~~ sequentially depending on properties of the well fluid and process conditions.

2. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising:

conducting the multiphase fluid ~~is conducted~~ to one first gravity separator or to a group of first gravity separators connected in parallel, ~~in order to be subjected~~ thereby subjecting the multiphase fluid to a first gravitational settling step, and

conducting ~~wherein~~ one of the separation products of that step ~~is conducted~~ to a second gravity separator or group of second gravity separators connected in parallel, ~~in order to be subjected~~ thereby subjecting the one of the separation products to a second gravitational settling step.

3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising:

selecting one or more separators out of a plurality of three or more gravity separators, based on process conditions and properties of the multiphase fluid, ~~one or more separators are selected to~~

become said first separator or separators, and

utilizing the remaining separator or separators ~~being utilised~~ as said second separator or separators.

4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising:
subjecting said separation product of the first gravitational settling step ~~is subjected~~ to an emulsion-breaking treatment other than gravitational settling before ~~being subjected~~ subjecting the separation product to the second gravitational settling step.

5. (previously amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein said emulsion-breaking treatment other than gravitational settling comprises treatment by means of an electrostatic coalescer.

6. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising:
subjecting the multiphase fluid ~~is subjected~~ to a treatment for removal of gas and/or solid particles before ~~being subjected~~ subjecting the multiphase fluid to the gravitational settling in the gravity separators.

7. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the multiphase fluid delivered to the first and second gravity separators comprises an oil phase and a water phase, and wherein the separation product conducted from the first gravity separator or group of first gravity separators to the second gravity separator or group of second gravity separators is the oil-richest phase obtained by the gravity settling in the first separator or separators.

8. (currently amended) A system for separating the phases of a multiphase fluid from one or more wells, comprising:

at least one first gravity separator,

at least one second gravity separator, and

means for conducting the fluid from the one or more wells to at least one first gravity separator and at least one second gravity separator, ~~wherein the means for conducting comprising~~
~~means for selectively conducting the fluid to the first and second gravity separators either in~~
~~parallel or in subsequent steps~~ simultaneously or sequentially depending on properties of the well fluid and process conditions.

9. (previously amended) The system according to claim 8, further comprising:

at least three gravity separators, and

means for selectively connecting at least one of the at least three gravity separators such that it either belongs to a group of first gravity separators or a group of second gravity separators.

10. (previously amended) The system according to claim 8, further comprising:

means for connecting the individual gravity separators of a group of first separators or a group of second separators in parallel with each other.

11. (previously amended) The system according to claim 8, further comprising:

an emulsion-breaking unit that is arranged in series with at least one of the first and the second gravity separator.

12. (currently amended) The system according to claim 8 11, further comprising:
means for connecting the emulsion-breaking unit in series with and downstream the first gravity separator or group of first gravity separators and upstream the second gravity separator or group of second gravity separators.

13. (previously amended) The system according to claim 8, further comprising:
a plurality of gravity separators,
a corresponding plurality of first conduits leading from the one or more wells to each of the gravity separators,
a valve means for controlling the flow through each individual conduit to the gravity separator associated thereto,
a circuit comprising a conduit leading from an outlet of a first gravity separator to an inlet into a second gravity separator, for conducting one of the separation products of the first gravity separator to the second gravity separator, and
a valve for controlling the flow of said separation product to the second gravity separator.

14. (previously amended) The system according to claim 13, further comprising:
a plurality of conduits, one for each gravity separator, leading from an outlet of the associated separator to an inlet of each one of the plurality of separators, for conducting a separation product to any one of the other ones of the plurality of separators, and
a plurality of valves for controlling the flow of said separation product to each individual or a group of the separators.

15. (previously amended) The system according to claim 13, wherein said circuit comprises an emulsion-breaking unit, and wherein the separation product conducted therein passes through the emulsion-breaking unit.

16. (previously amended) The system according to claim 14, wherein the plurality of conduits that lead from said outlets of the individual separators are gathered to one single conduit, and wherein there are downstream branches from the single conduit that lead to said inlets of the respective separator.

17. (previously amended) The system according to claim 8, further comprising:
a plurality of valve-operated conduits, one for each of the plurality of separators, that lead from an outlet of said separators to a following, different treatment step other than gravitational settling.

18. (previously amended) The system according to claim 8, further comprising:
at least one separator upstream the set of gravity separators, for the purpose of separating gas and/or solid particles from the multiphase fluid before conducting the latter to the gravity separators.

19. (previously amended) The system according to claim 8, wherein it is a subsea system.

20. (currently amended) The ~~subsea~~ system according to claim 8, wherein the multiphase

fluid comprises an oil phase and a water phase that are to be separated from each other in the gravity separators.